

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-identified application:

### Listing of Claims:

1-10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising ~~an amino acid sequence encoded by the first nucleotide sequence in claim 1~~ amino acids 22-400 of SEQ ID NO:4.

12. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The isolated polypeptide of claim 11, wherein the polypeptide consists ~~consisting of an amino acid sequence encoded by the first nucleotide sequence in claim 1~~ amino acids 22-400 of SEQ ID NO:4.

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence ~~encoded by the first nucleotide sequence in claim 6~~ of SEQ ID NO:4.

15. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The isolated polypeptide of claim 14, wherein the polypeptide consists ~~consisting of an~~ the amino acid sequence ~~encoded by the first nucleotide sequence in claim 6~~ of SEQ ID NO:4.

16-18. (canceled)

19. (withdrawn) A method for identifying an agent that can modulate the expression of a ~~polynucleotide~~ polypeptide of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 11, the method comprising the steps of:

~~exposing a cell that comprises a polynucleotide of claim 1 under the control of its native promoter;~~

~~measuring the expression of the polynucleotide a polypeptide of claim 11 in a group of cells that are exposed to a test agent the cell; and~~

~~comparing the expression to that in a group of control cell that is cells that are not exposed to the test agent, wherein a higher or lower than the expression in the control group of cells cell indicates that the agent can modulate the expression of the polynucleotide polypeptide.~~

20-22. (canceled)

23. (withdrawn) A method for diagnosing ~~[[a]]~~ liver cancer or liver preneoplastic development in ~~a tissue or organ of a human subject or non-human animal~~, the method comprising the steps of:

~~measuring the expression of a polynucleotide of claim 1~~ polypeptide of claim 11 in liver cells ~~of the tissue or organ~~ obtained from a region in the liver suspected of cancer or preneoplastic development; and

~~comparing the expression of the polynucleotide polypeptide to a normal standard wherein a higher than normal expression indicates cancer or preneoplastic development in the tissue or organ in the suspect region.~~

24-27. (canceled)

28. (withdrawn) A method for identifying a human subject ~~or non-human animal~~ as a candidate for further screening for cancer or preneoplastic development in the liver ~~a tissue or organ~~, the method comprising the steps of:

determining the level of a polypeptide of claim 11 in a blood or blood-derived sample from the subject animal;

comparing the level to a normal range established by the same subject animal during a ~~period that is~~ liver tumor-free period ~~in the tissue or organ~~, or by a plurality of humans ~~who animals of the same species that are~~ liver tumor-free ~~in the tissue or organ~~; and

identifying the subject animal as a candidate for further cancer screening when the level exceeds the established normal range.

29-30. (canceled)

31. (withdrawn) A method for identifying a human subject ~~or non-human animal~~ as a candidate for further screening for cancer or preneoplastic development in the liver ~~a tissue or organ~~, the method comprising the steps of:

determining the level of an antibody to a polypeptide of claim 11 in a blood or blood-derived sample from the subject animal;

comparing the level to a normal range established by the same subject animal during a ~~period that is~~ liver tumor-free period ~~in the tissue or organ~~, or by a plurality of humans ~~who animals of the same species that are~~ liver tumor-free ~~in the tissue or organ~~; and

identifying the subject animal as a candidate for further cancer screening when the level exceeds the established normal range.

32-39. (canceled)